

ROTARY NOTARY



Birthdays:

<i>Tom Morris</i>	12/08
<i>Tammie Rhea</i>	12/12
<i>Joe Goetz</i>	12/14
<i>Jim Boone</i>	12/14
<i>Craig Wulf</i>	12/15

At Rotary Today:

Greeter: Craig Wulf

Invocation, Flag Salute, and Four-way test:

Robin McGonigle

Member News:

Denise Hearson

Wedding Anniversaries:

Scott and Diane Post,
46 years on December 18

Rotary Anniversaries:

Ric Wolford—23 years

New Member:

Fred Heismeyer introduced new member Dr. Stewart Crow, a retired dentist who moved to Wichita from Independence, KS, where he was a member of Rotary. Welcome, Dr. Crow!

Quote of the Week:

The most important gifts you can give are your love, time, and attention. Slow down, take time to smile, and enjoy loved ones. Life goes by way too fast.

—Carla White

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS— MENTORING YOUTH FOR 50 YEARS

EWR members Todd Bailey and Shelly Chinberg shared how BBBS changes the lives of children facing adversity (littles) and their adult mentors (bigs) forever. BBBS is the only mentoring agency that has professionally degreed staff who support matches throughout the life of the match.



Shelly Chinberg jokes that because Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) has been around for 100 years and 50 years in Sedgwick County, it's the original match.com.

The organization matches adults with children ages 5—17 facing adversity. The statistics are startling:

- 85% come from single parent homes
- 80% live at or below the poverty level
- 60% come from households facing alcohol or drug addictions
- 40% have experienced or witnessed domestic violence
- 30% have or have had an incarcerated parent

Some youth are dealing with only one of these situations; others, like her former Little, face all of them. Chinberg emphasizes that

these are not bad youth. They are good kids living in unfortunate circumstances.

The contrast between their lives and ours is often unimaginable. Currently Chinberg is matched with Jess, a 12-year-old girl who wants to be a doctor or nurse some day to help care for people with renal failure, which is what her mother suffers from. Jess is a sweet girl who gets good grades but lacks good role models. Her older half-sister wants to drop out of school and her half-brother who is 14 wants to join a gang.

By having a mentor she sees weekly, Jess is much more likely to get better grades, stay in school, and go on to college or trade school. Mentors don't have to do anything heroic to help their littles achieve these results. They just have to show up regularly and spend time

doing things they mutually enjoy.

Todd Bailey was matched with Khalis Thomas for 11 years from 2006 until he turned 17 last January. Khalis graduated from East High last spring and is currently attending Central Christian College on a basketball scholarship. Todd says that he loved being a Big and he highly recommends that all EWR members consider becoming one too. There is no better way to bring positive influence to youth facing adversity. Mentors show them that there is a way out of their situation, leading to active, happy lives.

There are many ways you or you and your spouse can become matched with a Little. But you have to be willing to commit for at least a year. There are always children on the waiting list. Maybe one of them is waiting for someone like you!

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, December 20— Fireside at Opti-Life, 9758 E. 21st (northeast intersection of 21st and Webb.) More than a fitness center, Opti-Life is envisioned by its founders as a place to achieve well-being physically, mentally, and holistically.

Please sign up with Kim so she can order your lunch from Barn'rds!

NO MEETINGS Wednesday, December 27 or January 3 due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Wednesday, January 10 and 17 we'll meet at the Wichita Marriott. Always a favorite with a special menu and dessert table, thanks to **Angela Binyon** and the Marriott staff!

Reminders:

There's still time to sign up to attend the Christmas party which will take place next **Wednesday evening, December 13, at the Wichita Country Club beginning at 6:00 p.m.** Please make your reservation and payment by this **Friday, December 8.**

If you pay your dues semi-annually, dues for the remainder of the Rotary year (January through June 2018) are due **Friday, December 22.**

Next Week:

NO MEETING because of the Christmas party on the evening of December 13.

TOP TEN WAYS TO CONFUSE SANTA

10. Instead of milk and cookies, leave him a salad and a note explaining that you think he could stand to lose a few pounds.

9. While he's in the house, find his sleigh and write him a speeding ticket.

8. Leave him a note explaining that you've gone away for the holidays. Ask if he'd mind watering your plants.

7. Leave a note by the telephone telling Santa that Mrs. Claus called and wanted to remind him to pick up some milk and a loaf of bread on his way home.

6. Set a bear trap at the bottom of the chimney. Wait for Santa to get caught in it, and then explain that you're sorry, but from a distance he looks like a bear.

5. While he's in the house, sit in his sleigh. When he returns and sees you, tell him that he shouldn't have missed that last payment and take off.

4. Take everything out of your house as if it's just been robbed. When Santa arrives, show up dressed like a policeman and say, "Well, well. They always return to the scene of the crime."

3. Leave out a copy of your Christmas list with last-minute changes and corrections.

2. Leave Santa a note explaining that you've moved. Include a map with unclear and hard-to-read directions to your new house.

And, drum roll please, the Number One way to confuse Santa Claus....

1. Instead of ornaments, decorate your tree with Easter eggs. Dress up like the Easter Bunny. Wait for Santa to come and then say, "This neighborhood ain't big enough for the both of us."



Special thanks to Kim Hurtig for sharing this!

MORE AT ROTARY TODAY



These EWR members and spouses helped make Christmas a little merrier for residents of the Wichita Children's Home by bringing, and decorating, a small, personal-sized Christmas tree for each child. L to R: Ric Wolford, Jim Crawford, Nancy Wolford, Barbara Crawford, Joe Sullivan, Ryan Henry, Scott Holder, Ely Luna, Donna Kennedy, Denise Hearson, Bobbi Hansen, Kim Hurtig, Diane Post, and Scott Post.